Robert D Fraser
21 Faxton

HAMILTON LIFE.

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College.

VOL. XIII. CLINTON, N. Y., TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1911 No. 23.

PLAN OF COURSE CHANGED

Faculty Decides to Alter Plan of Study to Conform to Semester System. Progressive Step.

Friday evening the College was startled by a rumor that the Faculty had announced that hereafter Hamilton is to have two terms instead of three. A hastily printed printer's proof of the revised schedule of courses posted at the Chapel, confirmed the rumor. Hamilton, following the more modern practice of the majority of American colleges, is to have the semester system.

The three term year is traditional at Hamilton. The principal inducement to the change to two terms was the saving of time by the elimination of one set of reviews and examinations. The new system will allow much longer unbroken periods of advance work. The new system will save a great deal of revision of electives and schedules.

Another inducement to a new system was the break in the short winter term by the festivities of Junior Week. It is hoped by skillful arrangement of the calendar under the new system, and by co-operation of the Juniors with the Faculty to eliminate this evil. The Faculty has no desire to threaten the successful celebration of Junior Week, but it does wish to time it for the least possible interference with college work. Junior Week and Spring vacation cause the difficulty in arranging the new calendar. The Faculty now has the matter under consideration and wishes to decide it in accord with undergraduate sentiment so far as that corresponds to the best interests of the College.

There are two chief plans now being considered. The first plan is to have a vacation of some ten days between the first and second terms, late in February, of which the first three days would be devoted to Junior Week. This plan may be objected to because it gives a long vacation too soon after Christmas, and at a time when no other colleges are out, also because it gives a very long period of unbroken work from March to June. Another plan is to have three days between the first and second terms to be devoted to Junior, and a week's vacation in April, as we now have it. This plan is open to the objection that it leaves only three days, and those occupied by festivities, for delinquents of first term to prepare for the delinquency examinations. The question should be fully discussed, and undergraduate opinion crystallized.

At the same time that the semester system was announced several changes in course were made public. Many of them are minor ones necessitated by the redivision of the college year, but some are important.

Classical Freshmen begin German first term instead of third, and French first term Sophomore instead of second. Latin-Scientific Freshmen may elect Greek immediately instead of waiting till Sophomore year. The tendency of these changes is to put work required for degrees earlier in the course and bring students sooner to elective work. It also relieves first term Sophomore, which has been in the past overburdened, especially for Classical men. Latin-Scientific Freshmen not taking Greek may elect in second term Hygiene and Botany, which have heretofore been Sophomore subjects. Elocution is replaced by Principles of Public Speaking, and Freshmen have no Chapel first term.

The Theory of Debate which has been required Sophomore year has become an elective. Senior attendance at Saturday Chapel is required to the end. A new course in Metaphysics and Aesthetics is offered to Seniors, first and second terms respectively.

These changes are important but not basic. They accord with the general principles of Hamilton's educational program and are merely in the interest of greater efficiency. The College welcomes the semester system and hopes that it may be made more effective by a satisfactory solution of the calendar problem.

NOTED VISITORS ON HILL

Through Vice-President Sherman's Kindness, College is Honored by Visit of Eminent Men.

Classes were dismissed yesterday at noon in order that the College might have the opportunity of listening to addresses by Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador to this country, Hon. John Barrett, director-general of the Pan-American Union, and Sentor Weldon Brinton Heyburn of Idaho. These distinguished gentlemen visited the College as guests of Vice-President Sherman, '78, and to his courtesy we are indebted for the privilege which their presence conferred.

Promptly at noon President Stryker rose to introduce Vice-President Sherman, who presided over the "intellectual symposium," as he was pleased to call it. He explained that the habit which he formed nearly four decades ago of obeying the President of Hamilton College was not easily discarded. He further exonerated President Stryker from following the example of his predecessor in office who, forgetful of the construction which might be placed upon his words, prayed that each day Heaven would consecrate them afresh. After a few more graceful words he introduced His Excellency, Count Von Bernstorff.

The German Ambassador was greeted by the "long yell" and expressed his appreciation of the warmness of his welcome, together with his pleasure at being present. He spoke in English and gave the students leave to correct him if they would grant him the same privilege in a German recitation room, a bargain which was struck with much laughter. He extolled the value of the study of the humanities as a preparation for good citizenship. It is a necessary corollary to popular government that the masses should be intelligently trained. To the German educational system is attributable the present era of Ger-

(Continued on page 5.)

NEW CHAPEL WINDOWS.

The College on its return from Easter recess found the Chapel enriched to the extent of two new, stained-glass windows: one on the south gallery, a likeness of Dr. Darling, for ten years President of the College; the other on the north side of the Chapel, the face of one of Hamilton's greatest professors, Dr. Anson Judd Upson. Both windows are the work of the English firm which is responsible for practically all the other stained glass in the Chapel.

Dr. Darling, who preceded President Stryker as the head of the College, was a graduate of Amherst, later attending both Union and Auburn Seminaries. After holding several pastorates in Philadelphia and Albany, he was selected as the eighth President of Hamilton College. Dr. Darling's ruling purpose during his administration was to strengthen the working forces of the College and to increase its efficiency, and when he died in 1891, with the respect and admiration of all who knew him, it was realized that his desires had been more than accomplished. The window was presented by the Class of 1885.

That the College would eventually possess the likeness of the man thru whose ability its fame had so widely spread has long been universally acknowledged. Dr. Upson served the College as head of the department of Rhetoric and Oratory for twenty-five years during which period Clark Prize and the various essay contests were inaugurated. Due to his efforts Hamilton oratory received the greatest impetus in its career. Dr. Upson resigned his chair in 1870 to become connected with Auburn Seminary. Later he served as Chancellor of the New York State University. The window bearing the portrait of Dr. Upson was presented by some of his friends.

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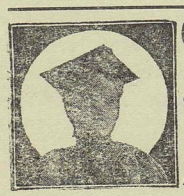

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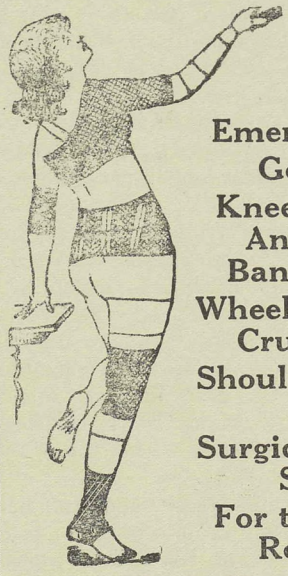

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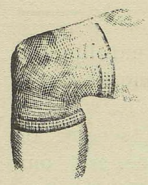

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FOR THE STUDENT BODY

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Reportorial.

N. J. MARSH, JR., H. S. BOOTH.

EDITORIAL.

In changing the curriculum of the College to conform to the semester system, the Faculty has taken a most progressive step. Whatever advantages the three term system may have had, and there are admittedly many, its disadvantages are preponderant. The most immediately important result of the institution of the new system will be the gain of at least ten days in advance studies. At present the three examinations consume of themselves approximately twenty-five days including Sundays; the three periods for review, about eighteen days. By doing away with one examination with its accompanying review week, it would seem that ten days is a minimum amount of time saved, but the Faculty considers that a little more time will be required for reviews in order to cover the larger amount of work on which the students will be examined.

This saving of time appears to be the prime object of the Faculty in changing the curriculum, but some members have expressed the hope that as a natural development will come the group-system course of study which is being so much discussed by educators throughout the country.

Life ventures to suggest that there is also a general sentiment among the members of the Faculty, inward if not expressed, that the two examinations will compel the students to do more consistent work during the terms. At any rate, with so much work to cover for examinations, and because of the cessation of study caused by the Christmas and Easter vacations, a large number of the students will have to abandon their admittedly slipshod methods during the terms. And it will be well.

There may be further advantages in the semester system, but they are minor and can be instituted at such time as the desirability for doing so may appear without material change in the general plan.

Presumably there will ensue many changes in the arrangement of the College activities, but these will be discussed in later issues.

What we are particularly thankful for is that the time seems to be passing when Hamilton must sniff at proposed changes in its executive policies which other colleges have found so desirable.

* * *

It has always been the custom for Life to attempt to foretell the result of a contest in which some team from the College may be about to participate. It is always well that such a prophecy be tinted with optimism, but a super-abundance may lead one astray from a calm judgment and thus, in the event that the result of the contest is not up to their expectations, disappoint those who must depend upon Life for information.

In aiming to predict the number of games the baseball team will win on its Southern trip, Life warns all not to become visionary. We hope to win two games at least. Do not be disappointed or discouraged if the team fails to win a single game. Som scores made by the teams which Hamilton will meet are printed in another part of this issue; a careful comparative analysis of these scores will do much to substantiate the statement that the opposing teams will be much more highly developed than our own. And why not? In addition to the fact that we shall play teams representing colleges having larger enrollments than has Hamilton, Southern teams have been playing games for over a month, while our team, because of adverse weather conditions and our undrained and poorly rolled field, has not had one satisfactory practice.

Faculty restrictions have prevented three men from going on the trip—the men who were counted upon to fill the most important positions, possibly, on the team: those of catcher, first base and pitcher. The banning of these men was a sudden shock to the Captain, so that it has been a very unsatisfactory task to select men from the limited squad to replace them in the two days permitted. Consequently, not only is the strength of the team materially lessened by the loss of these three men, but the men who have finally been chosen have had little opportunity to develop team-work.

Life does not wish to convey the impression in anything written above that it is criticizing the Faculty for its action in regard to the beforementioned players who were barred from the trip. To be candid, the decision did seem severe, but long ago the Faculty made very plain its determination not to permit any man to take the trip whose work was not a trifle more than ordinarily satisfactory. All knew this and if these men failed to satisfy the requirements, unless there is some ulterior extenuation, they themselves are to blame.

* * *

The Library will be inadequately lighted. Altho the first floor is the only one to be wired, there are not enough lights to produce much more than a luminous glow. The two lonely bulbs in the reading-room, where, of course, there should be an abundance of light, are not placed advantageously. It is absurd to have them hung from the ceiling chandelier-like; they should be attached to the magazine rack immediately above the desk, and should be half-shaded.

The only excuse that can be offered for this obviously ineffectual lighting system is that it is but temporary. Life believes this is fortunately so. The Library, as it is now arranged, has been condemned long since, and it has been rumored persistently that the Trustees were but waiting for the money required to make extensive improvements, either by remodeling the present building or by building a new one. If the authorities think that

this money is likely to be forthcoming within a very few years, they were justified undeniably in not wishing to expend a large sum in installing an elaborate system of lighting which would have to be discarded soon, no matter how the Library might be altered.

However, more bulbs should be placed in the reading room at once.

NOTED VISITORS ON HILL.

(Continued from page 1.)

man prosperity and good government.

Hon. John Barrett, who admitted that he "ain't bankrupt", was next introduced and related a humorous experience of his in addressing some Siamese college graduates in their own tongue. He then paid an eloquent tribute to Elihu Root, who, when Secretary of State, brought about the present amity between the United States and the South American Republics. He expressed himself as proud to have visited a college which has among its graduates such men as Mr. Root and Vice-president Sherman.

After an appropriate introduction Senator Heyburn spoke of the interest he took in visiting the college and congratulated his "fellow citizens" upon the opportunity which was theirs. In Idaho, he stated, he would have been obliged to include the ladies in the gallery in his salutation. As he viewed them the responsibilities which rested upon the college were greater than those devolving upon those in power, and included the Vice President and Dr. Stryker in this declaration. He expressed his faith in the "raw material" and was grateful for the opportunity of viewing the college.

The "symposium" proper was now over, but Dr. Stryker expressed on behalf of the college his gratitude to Vice-President Sherman for giving us an inkling of who the men are who are doing great things in statesmanship and diplomacy. "Carissima" was sung and was followed by Die Wachte Am Rhein as a recessional.

—"Dutch" Fear has been elected Captain of the Sophomore baseball team. Manager Myer is at present negotiating for a game with Dolgeville High School for the coming Saturday. The schedule will probably include games with Little Falls, Herkimer, Ilion and Binghamton.

OFF FOR A SOUTHERN TRIP.

The baseball squad, consisting of Captain Allen, Manager Pratt, and ten men, left Utica Sunday night over the New York Central for a Southern trip that will include five games. While a majority of the opposing teams are far out of Hamilton's class it is expected that the week's work will do much toward whipping the men into shape for the regular schedule.

On Monday the team will meet Delaware College at Newark, Del., where a warm game is expected. From here they will go to Emmettsburg, Maryland, to play Mt. St. Mary's College. This team has been on the diamond several weeks, having played a number of games, defeating Randolph-Macon, 4-3. The game which was to have been played Wednesday with Eastern College at Manassas, Va., has been cancelled by that institution on account of faculty interference. Manager Pratt is negotiating for a second game with Mt. St. Mary's; in event of failure to fill this date the team will spend Wednesday in Baltimore. The strongest college on the trip will be met Thursday at Lexington, Va., where the Varsity will line up against Washington and Lee, who are already asserting their claims to the Southern championship. A second game with this team will be played Friday. The last contest of the trip will take place Saturday against Trinity College at Durham, N. C. Little is known of the athletic prowess of this institution but it is believed that the Varsity should make a favorable showing.

The men taking the trip are Allen, Mitchell, Sidle, Manion, Gould, C. D. Root, Watkins, Hallock, Knox, Bagg and Royce.

FOUNTAIN ROW.

Active belligerency between the underclasses officially came to an end Friday morning, when the annual splashing in the fountain took place in the interim between the first and second hours. Contrary to the usual procedure, the Slimers took the initiative and consequently bore away the greater portion of the laurel wreath. Because of the extreme dearth of water, there will be fewer colds and more raw elbows this year. Anyhow the row fulfilled it's primal purpose in that it furnished entertainment for the two upper-classes.

PETER KELLY IS DEAD.

Peter Kelly's death occurred just too soon for him to greet the graduates of forty-two years, should representatives of all the classes he has known return to Commencement. For, with the exception of two years spent in New York as a fireman in the early 70's, Peter Kelly has been faithfully working for Hamilton College since 1869. Customs have come and gone, over a thousand boys have graduated, while old "Peter" went cheerily about his work on the Campus. He was always a true friend of the boys, and many an undergraduate did he save from expulsion, for always when questioned by the Faculty about some wild prank, a cow in Chapel or a wagon on the Observatory roof, Peter was sure to "know nauthing o' it."

For the last few years the labors of the "Professor of Dust and Ashes," as he was fondly called, were light, but still he came up the Hill daily to tend furnaces and light the Campus lamps, coasting down the Hill in the winter on a venerable little sled. Peter would never trust himself to the reckless steering of the students.

"No, thankee, sir," said he last winter to one of the second generation, "I've never coasted down the Hill with one of the boys since I went down with your father in '78. I thought he'd kill me sure."

At eleven o'clock Saturday, April 22, Peter Kelly died of pneumonia at his home at the bottom of the Hill. He will be greatly missed, and his memory will go down with the lasting traditions of Hamilton College.

The Faculty graciously omitted classes from ten to twelve in answer to the request by the students that they be permitted to attend the funeral. Nearly the whole College was present to show its respect for the long faithfulness of the departed.

—"Spike" Hall was on the Hill for a few days last week, looking over eligible material for Kappa Beta Phi and, together with Past Master Fiske, determining upon the course of action that the Bacchian order will pursue in the future campaign. According to Mr. Hall the prospects are splendid.

—Blodgett, '09, has been elected President of the second year class at Syracuse Medical.

LOCAL DEPARTMENT

D. E. STONE, '13, Local Editor.

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E. H. Jones, '11, President.
D. H. Hallock, '12, Secretary-Treas.

HILL NOTES.

—Seymour, '95, of Manchester, England, spent a couple of days on the Hill last week.

—The following Alumni were on the Hill recently: Robinson, '74, Brownell, '84, McGregor, '97, Blodgett and Butler, '09.

—The baseball diamond is being put in good shape for the first home game, May 3d. The depression around second base is being filled with slag and clay.

—The last Mandolin Club rehearsals of the year will be held Monday and Wednesday evenings, May 1st and 3d, in preparation for the Utica concert. A full attendance is urgently requested by Leader Gould, '11.

—The following have been elected recently to Phi Beta Kappa: Clarence Burton Day, San Anselmo, Cal.; Theodore Day Martin, Manti, Utah; John Henry Parry, Utica; Charles Bunnell Willard, Brooklyn.

—At the Senior Class meeting held last Thursday the following committees were appointed: Dance committee—Mitchell, chairman; Allen and Anibal. Senior banquet — Martin, chairman; Curtis, Westcott and Fawcett.

—The intercollegiate championships this last year have been tabulated as follows: Football, Harvard; Baseball, Pennsylvania; Track, Pennsylvania; Rowing, Cornell; Cross-country, Cornell; Soccer Football, Columbia; Basket-ball, Columbia; Cricket, Haverford; Golf, Yale; Tennis, Princeton; Shooting, Yale; Swimming, Yale; Gymnastics, Columbia; Wrestling, Cornell; Fencing, West Point; Hockey, Princeton; Lacrosse, Harvard.

COMMUNICATIONS.

April 18, 1911.

Editor-in-Chief Hamilton Life,
Clinton, N. Y.

Dear Sir:—The proposed change in dates of Commencement, outlined in your columns, should prove acceptable to the considerable number of Alumni who are school men and whose engagements have conflicted so often in the past. The suggestion appeals to me. Yours very truly,

PERCY L. WIGHT, '91.

April 20, 1911.

Editors Hamilton Life,
Clinton, N. Y.

Gentlemen—Your suggestive rearrangement of the order of events at the Hamilton Commencement commends itself to the three Hamilton Alumni resident here. It would seem to work no injury to any interest on the part of the graduating class and their friends and yet concentrate the events of interest to Alumni in general very happily. It seems eminently practicable. Yours truly,

DWIGHT HOLBROOK, '75,
HENRY HOLBROOK, '78,
NORTHRUP HOLBROOK, '00.

April 21, 1911.

Editor of Life:

Dear Sir—I read the new scheme for Commencement with great interest and think favorably of it. Had it been in force last year I could have enjoyed several days on the Hill. As it was I could only have one day to renew my youth. Push the new arrangement for all it is worth for it is a good one. Yours truly,

B. N. HOLBROOK, 1900.

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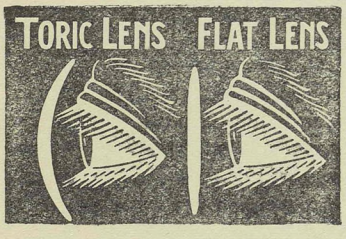

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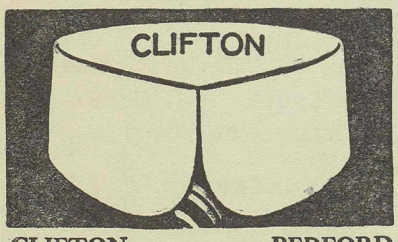

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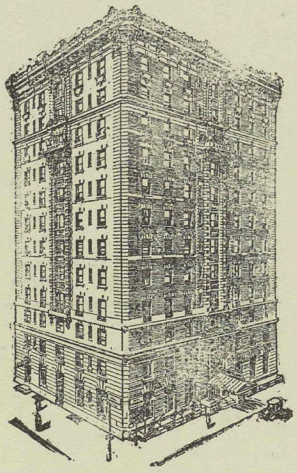

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